

CHAPTER 98
WILD TURKEY SPRING HUNTING
[Prior to 12/31/86, Conservation Commission[290] Ch 111]

RESIDENT WILD TURKEY SPRING HUNTING

571—98.1(481A) General. Wild turkey may be taken during the spring season subject to the following rules:

98.1(1) License. All hunters must have in possession a spring wild turkey hunting license valid for the current year when hunting wild turkey. No one, while hunting wild turkey, shall carry or have in possession any license or transportation tag issued to another hunter. A hunter having a license valid for one of the spring turkey hunting periods may accompany, call for, or otherwise assist any other hunter who has a valid turkey hunting license for any of the spring hunting periods in any zone, except that the hunter doing the assisting may not shoot a turkey or carry a firearm or bow unless the hunter has a valid license with an unused tag for the current season and zone. If a turkey is taken, it must be tagged with the tag issued to the hunter who shot the turkey. Two types of licenses will be issued.

a. Combination shotgun-or-archery licenses will be issued by zone and period and will be valid in the designated zone and for the designated period only. No one shall apply for or obtain more than two combination shotgun-or-archery licenses. If two licenses are obtained, one must be for hunting period four in Zone 4. Hunters who obtain one or two combination shotgun-or-archery licenses, whether free or paid, may not apply for or obtain an archery-only license.

b. Archery-only licenses will be valid statewide and shall be valid during all hunting periods open for spring turkey hunting. No one may apply for or obtain more than two archery-only licenses. Hunters purchasing one or two archery-only licenses, whether free or paid, may not apply for or obtain a combination shotgun-or-archery license.

98.1(2) Daily bag and possession limits. Daily bag limit, one bearded (or male) wild turkey. Possession limit and season limit, one bearded (or male) wild turkey per license.

98.1(3) Shooting hours. Shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

571—98.2(481A) Method of take.

98.2(1) Permitted weapons. Wild turkey may be taken in accordance with the type of license issued as follows:

a. **Combination shotgun-or-archery license.** Wild turkey may be taken by shotgun or muzzle-loading shotgun not smaller than 20-gauge and shooting only shot sizes 2 or 3 nontoxic shot or 4, 5, 6, 7½, or 8 lead or nontoxic shot; and by longbow, recurve or compound bow shooting broadhead or blunthead (minimum diameter 9/16 inch) arrows only. No person may have shotshells containing shot of any size other than 2 or 3 nontoxic shot or 4, 5, 6, 7½, or 8 lead or nontoxic shot on their person while hunting wild turkey.

b. **Archery-only license.** Wild turkey may be taken by longbow, recurve or compound bow shooting broadhead or blunthead (minimum diameter 9/16 inch) arrows only.

98.2(2) Prohibited devices. The use of live decoys, dogs, horses, motorized vehicles, aircraft, bait, crossbows, except as otherwise provided, and the use or aid of recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds is prohibited, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may hunt from any stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with the involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.

98.2(3) Zones. Persons with a spring turkey hunting license may take wild turkey in designated areas in accordance with the type of license issued. Persons with an archery-only license may take wild turkey statewide. Persons with a combination shotgun-or-archery license may take wild turkey in one of four zones described as follows:

a. *Zone 1.* Zone 1 is all units of Stephens State Forest west of U.S. Highway 65 in Clarke and Lucas counties only.

b. *Zone 2.* Zone 2 is Shimek State Forest in Lee and Van Buren counties only.

c. *Zone 3.* Zone 3 is Yellow River State Forest in Allamakee county only.

d. *Zone 4.* Zone 4 is all of Iowa except for those areas described by Zones 1, 2 and 3.

98.2(4) Exceptions. Rescinded IAB 12/1/99, effective 1/5/00.

98.2(5) Hunting periods. Hunting periods will be established in accordance with the type of license issued.

a. *Combination shotgun-or-archery licenses.* Consecutive hunting periods are 4, 5, 7, and 19 days, respectively, with the first hunting period beginning on the Monday closest to April 13.

b. *Archery-only licenses.* The hunting period shall be 35 days beginning on the Monday closest to April 13.

571—98.3(481A) Procedures to obtain licenses. All spring wild turkey hunting licenses will be sold or may be applied for using the electronic licensing system for Iowa (ELSI). Licenses and license applications may be purchased through ELSI license agents or by calling the ELSI telephone ordering system.

98.3(1) Licenses with quotas. All licenses for zone and season combinations that have license quotas, as specified in subrule 98.3(3), will be issued through a random drawing. Applications for these licenses may be purchased through ELSI beginning the first Saturday after January 1 through the last Sunday in January. No one may submit more than one application during the application period. If applications have been sold in excess of the license quota for any zone or hunting period, a drawing will be held to determine which applicants receive licenses. Licenses or refunds of license fees will be mailed to applicants after the drawing is completed. License agent writing fees, department administrative fees and telephone order charges will not be refunded. If any license quota has not been filled, the excess licenses will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis through ELSI beginning the second Saturday after the close of the application period and continuing until the quota has been filled or until the last day of the hunting period for which that license is valid, whichever occurs first. No one may obtain more than one limited-quota license.

98.3(2) Licenses that do not have quotas. Spring wild turkey hunting licenses that are not subject to a quota will be sold beginning the second Saturday after the close of the initial application period through the last day of the hunting period for which the license is valid.

98.3(3) License quotas. Separate quotas will be established for each license type.

a. *Combination shotgun-or-archery licenses.* A limited number of combination shotgun-or-archery hunting licenses will be issued for each hunting period in Zones 1, 2 and 3. There shall be no limit on combination shotgun-or-archery licenses in any hunting period in Zone 4. The same quota shall apply to Zones 1, 2 and 3 in all four hunting periods. The maximum number of combination shotgun-or-archery licenses that will be issued in each zone for each hunting period is as follows:

(1) Zone 1. 65.

(2) Zone 2. 125.

(3) Zone 3. 80.

(4) Zone 4. No limit.

b. *Archery-only licenses.* The number of archery-only licenses shall not be limited.

98.3(4) Landowner-tenant licenses. An eligible landowner or tenant may obtain a free combination shotgun-or-archery license or a free archery-only license. Nonresident landowners are not eligible for free turkey hunting licenses.

a. Free combination shotgun-or-archery licenses. Free combination shotgun-or-archery licenses will be issued by hunting period and will be valid only on the farm unit of the landowner or tenant. One paid combination shotgun-or-archery license may be obtained in addition to the free license, but at least one of these licenses (paid or free) must be for hunting period four in Zone 4.

b. Free archery-only licenses. Free archery-only licenses will be valid for all hunting periods but only on the farm unit of the landowner or tenant.

571—98.4(481A) Transportation tag. A transportation tag bearing license number of licensee, year of issuance, and date of kill properly shown shall be visibly attached to the carcass of each wild turkey in such a manner that the tag cannot be removed without mutilating or destroying the tag before the carcass can be transported from the place of kill. The tag shall be proof of possession of the carcass by above-mentioned licensee.

571—98.5(481A) Harvest reporting system. A harvest report card will be attached to each transportation tag. Each hunter that bags a wild turkey must fill out and sign the harvest report card after the transportation tag is attached to the turkey. The completed harvest report card must be taken to any ELSI license agent within 48 hours of tagging the turkey. The license agent will enter the harvest report information into the ELSI terminal and print out a harvest verification tag. The verification tag must be placed on the turkey and remain there until the turkey is processed for consumption. A wild turkey carcass or part of a carcass may not be taken to a locker plant for processing unless the proper verification tag is attached.

Rules 98.1(481A) to 98.5(481A) are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, 483A.1, and 483A.7.

571—98.6 to 98.9 Reserved.

NONRESIDENT WILD TURKEY SPRING HUNTING

571—98.10(483A) General. Wild turkey may be taken during the spring season subject to the following:

98.10(1) License. All hunters must have in possession a valid nonresident spring wild turkey hunting license and show proof they have paid the current year's habitat fee when hunting wild turkey. No one, while hunting turkey, shall carry or have in possession any license or transportation tag issued to another hunter. Licenses will be issued by zone and period and will be valid in the designated zone and period only. No one shall obtain more than one nonresident spring wild turkey hunting license.

98.10(2) Seasons. Bearded (or male) wild turkey may be taken only by the use of shotguns, muzzleloading shotguns, and bow and arrow during the first, third or fourth hunting periods as defined in 98.2(5), paragraph "a." No nonresident hunting licenses will be issued for the second hunting period.

98.10(3) Daily, possession and season limits. The daily bag limit is one bearded (or male) wild turkey; the possession and season limit is one bearded (or male) wild turkey.

98.10(4) Shooting hours. Shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day.

571—98.11(483A) Zones open to hunting. Licenses will be valid only in designated areas as follows:

1. Zone 1. Zone 1 is all units of Stephens State Forest in Clarke and Lucas counties west of U.S. Highway 65.
2. Zone 2. Zone 2 is the Shimek State Forest in Lee and Van Buren counties only.
3. Zone 3. Zone 3 is the Yellow River Forest in Allamakee county only.
4. Zone 4. Zone 4 is that portion of Iowa bounded on the north by Interstate Highway 80 and on the west by U.S. Highway 59, with the exception of the areas described as Zone 1 and Zone 2.
5. Zone 5. Zone 5 is that portion of Iowa bounded on the north by U.S. Highway 20 and on the east by U.S. Highway 59.
6. Zone 6. Zone 6 is that portion of Iowa lying east of U.S. Highway 63 and north of Interstate Highway 80, with the exception of that area described as Zone 3.
7. Zone 7. Zone 7 is that portion of Iowa bounded on the north by U.S. Highway 20, on the west by U.S. Highway 59, on the south by Interstate Highway 80, and on the east by U.S. Highway 63.

571—98.12(483A) License quotas. A limited number of wild turkey hunting licenses will be issued in each zone in each season as follows:

1. Zone 1. Closed.
2. Zone 2. Closed.
3. Zone 3. Closed.
4. Zone 4. 325.
5. Zone 5. 95.
6. Zone 6. 200.
7. Zone 7. 46.

571—98.13(483A) Means and method of take.

98.13(1) Permitted weapons. Wild turkey may be taken only with shotguns and muzzleloading shotguns not smaller than 20-gauge and shooting shot sizes 4, 5, 6, 7½, and 8 only; or with recurve, compound or longbows with broadhead or blunthead (minimum diameter 9/16 inch) arrows only. No person may have shotshells containing shot of any size other than 4, 5, 6, 7½, or 8 on their person while hunting wild turkey.

98.13(2) Prohibited devices. The use of live decoys, dogs, horses, motorized vehicles, aircraft, bait, crossbows, except as otherwise provided, and the use or aid of recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds is prohibited, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may hunt from any stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with the involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.

571—98.14(483A) Application procedure. Applications for nonresident spring wild turkey hunting licenses must be made through the electronic licensing system for Iowa (ELSI) telephone order system. Applications will be accepted from the first Saturday after January 1 through the last Sunday in January. No one may submit more than one application during the application period. If applications have been sold in excess of the license quota for any zone or hunting period, a drawing will be held to determine which applicants receive licenses. Licenses or refunds of license fees will be mailed to applicants after the drawing is completed. License agent writing fees, department administrative fees and telephone order charges will not be refunded. If any license quota has not been filled, the excess licenses will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis through the telephone ordering system beginning the second Saturday after the close of the application period and lasting until the quota has been filled or the last day of the hunting period for which the license is valid, whichever occurs first. No one may obtain more than one nonresident spring wild turkey hunting license. Hunters may apply individually or as a group of up to 15 applicants. All members of a group will be accepted or rejected as a group in the drawing. If a group is rejected, members of that group may purchase licenses individually if excess licenses are available.

Each individual applicant that is unsuccessful in the drawing will be assigned one preference point for each consecutive year in which the individual applies and is unsuccessful. Preference points will not accrue in a year in which an applicant fails to apply, but the applicant will retain any preference points previously earned. Once an applicant receives a license, all preference points will be erased. Preference points will apply to any zone or hunting period for which a hunter applies.

The first license drawing each year will be made from the pool of applicants with the most preference points. If licenses are still available after the first drawing, subsequent drawings will be made from pools of applicants with successively fewer preference points and continue until the license quota is reached or all applicants have received licenses. Applicants who apply as a group will be included in a pool of applicants with the same number of preference points as that of the member of the group with the fewest preference points assigned.

571—98.15(483A) Transportation tag. A transportation tag bearing license number of licensee, year of issuance and date of kill properly shown shall be visibly attached to the carcass of each wild turkey in such a manner that the tag cannot be removed without mutilating or destroying the tag before carcass can be transported from the place of kill. The tag shall be proof of possession of the carcass by the licensee.

571—98.16(481A) Harvest reporting system. A harvest report card will be attached to each transportation tag. Each hunter that bags a wild turkey must fill out and sign the harvest report card after the transportation tag is attached to the turkey. The completed harvest report card must be taken to any ELSI license agent within 48 hours of tagging the turkey or before leaving the state. The license agent will enter the harvest report information into the ELSI terminal and print out a harvest verification tag. The verification tag must be placed on the turkey and remain there until the turkey is processed for consumption. A wild turkey carcass or part of a carcass may not be taken to a locker plant for processing unless the proper verification tag is attached.

Rules 98.10(483A) to 98.15(483A) and 98.16(481A) are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, 483A.1 and 483A.7.

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